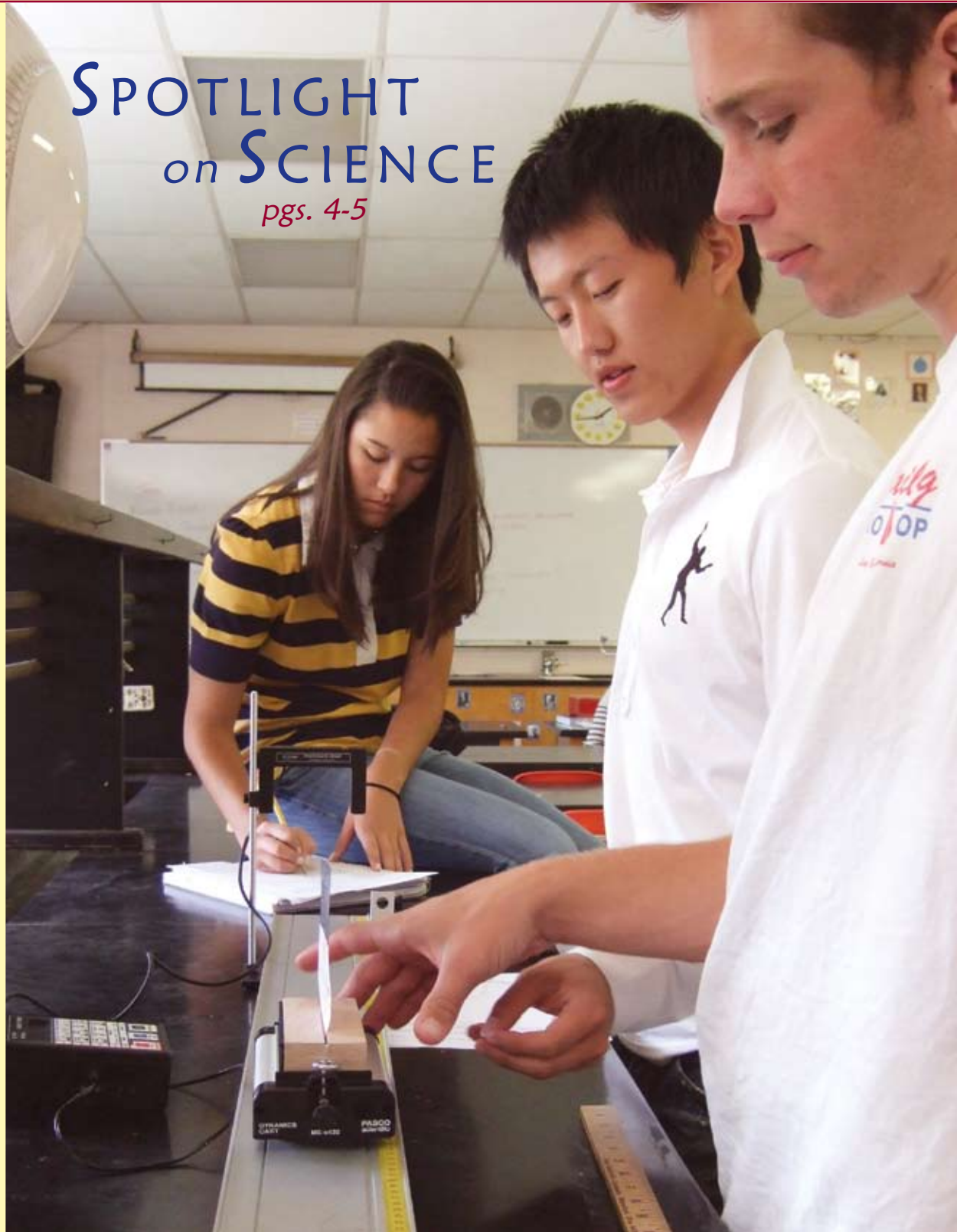


# GSA *Matters*

News for the Families and Friends of GEORGE STEVENS ACADEMY

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## On the Cover

Maddi Park '09, Alex Kim '09 and  
John Jagger '09 in Janine Galeski's  
Modeling Physics.

from the **ASSISTANT HEAD** of **SCHOOL**



My first three months at GSA have been among the greatest learning experiences of my career for many reasons. I have learned how welcoming this community can be and am truly indebted to those students, teachers, and parents who have welcomed me into this community, and as a person integral to their child's learning and success. I have seen evidence of incredible teaching occurring through unique programs, where student-teacher relationships are nurtured and encouraged to insure that students are learning what will help them succeed in the future. I have a new-found appreciation for the work of teachers and how important their input and collaboration is on effectively implementing policies. Finally, the greatest teachers throughout my orientation to GSA have been the students! They have been honest and accepting, appropriately clear about policies they want changed, and ready to provide feedback about their experiences and how they see this school and my role in it. It is with this knowledge and acceptance that I am able to look forward to an exciting year.

I have also learned that there are many ways in which I hope to contribute to strengthening GSA. The Advisory Program and Professional Development are areas in which there is a tremendous concentration and focus. Suggested curriculum activities for advisory are being developed to empower advisors to better advocate for the academic, social, and post-secondary needs of students. This is being done through establishing connections and advisor/student collaboration. Peer mentoring of teachers as a vehicle to promote purposeful and advantageous communication about how students learn, how and why they sometimes do not learn, and how we respond to these needs is another area of focus and interest. Throughout the year, look for continual updates about our progress on these fronts.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jill Cohen".

Jill Cohen  
Assistant Head of School

## Mission

George Stevens Academy is an independent high school located on the coast of Maine. Grounded in its traditions and commitment to the area's small towns, the Academy is a caring educational community invested in meeting the needs of each student. The Academy offers a challenging, comprehensive program of studies that fosters intellectual inquiry and the pursuit of knowledge, inspires creativity, develops self-reliance, and prepares its graduates for a purposeful life in an ever-changing world.

# XIAOKANG 'ALEX' CHEN '12

## NAMED RECIPIENT

### of the OCTOBER ACADEMY AWARD



The Student Council and Administration are happy to announce that Alex Chen '12 was selected as October's "Academy Award" winner.

Alex was nominated for his positive attitude towards learning in science class and his willingness to develop an incredible presentation to share with students on some of the environmental concerns in his native China.

Alex is a first-year student. He lives in the boys dormitory on the GSA campus.

**Congratulations Alex!**

The Academy Award is given to a student or students nominated by fellow students, teachers, or community members for any of the following reasons:

- ▶ Good citizenship at GSA or in the community as exemplified by honesty and respect towards teachers, community members, employers, and fellow students;
- ▶ Service as a positive role model for their peers in the classroom or in the school by actively participating in discussions, activities, and helping peers;
- ▶ Academic improvement or academic effort regardless of academic outcome;
- ▶ Exemplary sportsmanship or participation in co-curricular activities beyond standard expectations.

## FACULTY FAREWELL & WELCOME



**Tom Dobson** recently left his position at GSA as a teacher of photography to pursue a job at the Elliot Hospital, in Manchester, NH. He will be working with 65 emergency room and hospitalist doctors on the in-patient side of the hospital in an administrative capacity, making sure they have all they need to practice. Tom is maintaining contact with GSA through his daughter, **Elizabeth '09**, as she is residing in the girls dorm to finish up her senior year at GSA.

**Lee Park** has taken over as GSA's photography instructor. Lee has extensive experience in the field of photography. He owned a photography and design studio for 16 years and has also taught commercial photography at the Colorado Institute of Art, where he served as the Academic Department Director for the Commercial Photography program, as well as the Director of the School of Visual Arts. Lee's daughter, Madeleine, is a senior at GSA. He and his family reside in Blue Hill.

# SCIENCE *Matters* at GSA

## Adaptations in Science

*Throughout the year, each issue of GSA Matters will feature an article about one of the school's academic departments or programs. This issue takes a look at science courses being taught this Fall at GSA.*

This fall, after many years teaching *Integrated Sciences* to George Stevens freshmen, Carol Bennatti, now in her twenty-third year at GSA, radically redesigned and refocused the required science curriculum, replacing IS with a new Earth Systems curriculum: *Fundamentals of Earth Systems* and *Exploring Earth's Systems* (also offered at the honors level). All freshmen, beginning with the Class of 2012, are learning the foundations of science by studying the earth's four "spheres": the geosphere (land), hydrosphere (water), atmosphere (air), and biosphere (life). The new curriculum still covers "a little bit everything," explains Carol, who is also teaching Advanced Placement Environmental Science this fall. Over the course of the year students will be acquiring fundamental skills in chemistry, physics, biology, and the scientific method. But now students acquire these basics through the interdisciplinary lens of environmental issues that, in Carol's words, "have deep relevance for

all human citizens of this earth." Topics such as climate change, air and water resources, habitat destruction and conservation, soil conservation, greenhouse gasses, and biodiversity are best understood through several scientific approaches at once. "Rather than thinking of the sciences as separate, unconnected fields, students come to understand that it takes all the sciences to explain the earth's systems and the interconnected problems that arise in our environment."

It's not just the subject matter that's different in these classes. The Earth Systems curriculum is less about cracking a textbook than about empirical, hands-on learning by measuring and analyzing data. Students learn to frame questions about their environment scientifically, determine what they need to know to answer a question, and then begin collecting data. How much energy does it take to get to school every day? What do we know about how glaciers melt, and how can we predict the rate of glacier melt? The new curriculum, says Carol, also allows greater involvement with local researchers and area scientists. GSA students are participating in the "Camden to Katahdin Temperature Study," a longitudinal study of temperature change within Maine. Students set up and use weather stations and software to measure temperature and light, then input data into spreadsheets for analysis. Later this year, Carol is planning for students to work with MEEP (Maine Energy Education Program) which is collaborating with the DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) to carry out an energy audit of GSA's campus, using light and infrared meters to detect where the school is losing energy, and what steps could be taken to improve energy efficiency.

Only three months into the school year, Carol is pleased with the reaction to these new courses. Students seem more engaged and more readily see the relevance of what they're learning. "A parent told me during conferences last week that her daughter talks about carbon footprints at the dinner table. Now that's the kind of interest we want."



Mary Bridges '10 sets up an experiment to measure distance over time in Modeling Physics.

Haley Maiden '12, Charlie Volkwein '12, and Ramsey Williamson '12 create artificial ice to model glacial flow in Exploring Earth's Systems.



Across the hall in Sue Jellison's room, juniors and seniors in *Marine Science* are studying waves, tides, and coastlines. They consult the NOAA Web site to compare and graph tidelines and correlate them with lunar phases. Sue Jellison, in her ninth year at GSA and also teaching four sections of sophomore biology as well as *Marine Science*, designed the *Marine Science* course four years ago. "I just thought it was crazy for us not to use the marine resources right here at our front door," says Sue, who grew up in Southport and has always had a fascination and love for coasts. It's one of GSA's science electives—a course option for students who have completed at least two full years of science. It is open to students at all levels, and this year may be taken for either one or both semesters. "I want students to understand how much diversity there is among coasts and beaches—sandy, or rockbound, some with pebbles, or cobbles." Students learn that a coast is a system with characteristics that can be measured, studied, and explained scientifically.

In the spring, Sue plans to take students out to study tidal pools. After even one semester of "Marine Science," students begin to see their coast and waterways with new eyes. "A student who spent the day at the beach with her boyfriend came back to class all excited because she realized how much she was able to explain to him," said Sue.



Noah Sawyer '10, Elizabeth Dobson '09, and Rebecca Brady '10 race homemade Phoenician vessels for a history of marine technology project in *Marine Science*.

The newest member of GSA's science department, Janine Galeski, came to Blue Hill just two years ago and this fall has been teaching four sections of *Modeling Physics*. This is an approach to physics that challenges students to learn by discovering for themselves, through collaborative, hands-on group projects. The modeling pedagogy is not new to GSA; Janine's predecessor taught *Modeling Physics*, but Janine herself learned physics in high school the traditional way, by memorizing "pages and pages of laws and formulas in a textbook." "Twelve weeks later, when I arrived at college, I'd forgotten it all," she recalls. In fact, studies repeatedly show that when students actively engage in framing the problems and searching for explanations,

they learn better, retain better, and are better prepared for college-level science courses.

On a particular day, students are asked to observe a toy car rolling down a long slope. "What do you see? What can you measure?" Janine challenges students. Working in small groups, students attempt to measure the phenomenon they've observed using "smart timers" and other instruments. Then they "build" a scientific explanation using their data, and explain the results in four different ways: they *graph* what they have observed, using computer software; they *explain in words* what they've observed; they express their observation *mathematically*, and they create a *visual representation* of their observation. Finally, each group must present its four explanations to the rest of the class, so that, working together, the class can test each other's results, and synthesize the most promising explanation.

At that point, says Janine, students are prepared to understand accepted scientific definitions and concepts. Students in *Modeling Physics* will spend most of the year studying mechanics and the physics of motion, and modeling explanations of velocity, inertia, force, projectiles, energy, circular motion and momentum. Janine, who teaches chemistry in alternate years, argues that while *Modeling Physics* may not touch on as many areas of physics as the older, traditional formats tried to cover, students learn better and come away with a much deeper understanding of what

it means to do science well. "Students don't just learn *about* science," says Janine. "They *become* scientists."

All three science teachers maintain Web pages or "wikis" so their students can keep track of class handouts and assignments, as well as to provide links to interesting and useful science resources. These pages and wikis can be found on the Science Department's home page at [www.georgestevensacademy.org/sciencedepartment](http://www.georgestevensacademy.org/sciencedepartment).

## Happy Thanksgiving from the Office of Student Services!

We have had a productive Fall and are so impressed with the depth of involvement by so many GSA students from the classroom to extracurricular activities. It is truly remarkable, and we are grateful for everyone's contributions. As November moves into December, the Class of 2009 is busy making plans for next fall, visiting colleges and prospective employers, writing applications, scheduling interviews, and soliciting teacher recommendations. These are no small tasks to take on while simultaneously trying to complete one's graduation requirements! Every senior deserves our support and praise.

The following information pertains to the coming weeks.

### College Search and Application Timeline Highlights for the Class of 2009:

- Register for January 24 SAT by December 26th;
- Continue to refine your list of colleges to a manageable list (Bill Mayher referred to a "smooth curve of selectivity" in his presentation on college admissions, meaning a list of colleges that covers "reach, reasonable, and anchors" for each student);
- Get college applications; know application deadlines for each college.
- Start work on your college essays and applications;
- Teacher recommendation request forms should be out to teachers;
- Parent Information Sheets should be returned to our office;
- January 1st and January 15th are typically "big" deadline dates for many colleges.
- SAT Reminder: Each student is responsible for ensuring that his/her SAT/ACT scores are sent to the colleges to which you are applying. We do not send them for you.

### FAFSA/Financial Aid Workshop

We will host a FAFSA work session on December 11th at 6:30 P.M. in the Band Room for parents who would like assistance filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). FAFSA forms should be filed as soon after January 1st as possible and may be done on-line. In addition, some colleges require the Profile financial aid form. Profile forms must be completed on-line.

### Independent Study and Internship Program (ISIP) Update

All 11th and 12th graders who wish to participate in ISIP will be assigned an ISIP advisor and must submit their Preliminary ISIP Proposal to their ISIP advisor on Friday, December 5th. Final project proposals will be due on Wednesday, January 21st, 2009. Note: Final eligibility for all ISIP participants is based on 1st semester grades. Students who have two or more failing grades in the semester will not be permitted to participate in ISIP.

### 10th Grade Personal Learning Plans (PLP)

During November all 10th graders were introduced to a web-based software called Choices Planner. After setting up an account, students took an Interest Profile that connects them to a range of job listings. They explored a wide range of job interests, viewed the necessary skills needed for a particular job, linked to college programs that offer those skills, and saw suggested high school courses to support their interests. Choices Planner is only one dimension of a student's Personal Learning Plan, which is hosted by respective advisors, but it is a fun and multifaceted software. Students can access this from home if you have an Internet connection. You may wish to ask your child to show you Choices Planner.



Bayard Brokaw, *Academic Dean*

**If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Libby Rosemeier, Dean of Students, or Bayard Brokaw, Academic Dean, at 374-2120. We would be happy to talk with you or to set up an appointment for a meeting to discuss your child's needs.**

# NEWS *from the* INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM DIRECTOR



St. Gilgen International School, a brand new boarding school in St. Gilgen, Austria.



At the end of October, John Greene and I traveled to St. Gilgen, Austria. A beautiful village outside of Salzburg, it's not the most likely venue for an international recruiting fair. The fair was held at St. Gilgen International School, a brand new boarding school. Over the course of two-and-a-half days, we had the opportunity to network and meet with approximately seventy agents and colleague schools from all over the world. We had pre-scheduled individual meetings with thirty-

nine agents from Russia, Ukraine, Romania, Bulgaria, Uzbekistan, Greece, Italy, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam, Spain, Slovak Republic, and India. These agents represent students who are primarily interested in attending high school or university in English-speaking countries, and our hope, of course, is that they will send some of their students to GSA. Achieving diversity within our international student population requires hard work, patience, and most importantly, connecting with people. It is an honor to represent GSA overseas and spread the word about our unique location, wide range of courses and activities, highly skilled faculty, and diverse student body.

Sheryl Stearns, *International Program Director*

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◀GSA will offer an English as a Second Language course for high school students this summer. Click on the brochure cover for more information.

# GSA NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTS TEN



On Thursday, November 6, the GSA chapter of the National Honor Society inducted ten new members from the Class of 2009 (from top left): **Acadia Jacob**, daughter of Deborah Chapman, Penobscot, and John Jacob, New York City; **Samuel Allen**, son of Michael and JaneAnn Allen, Brooklin; **Long Tuan Nguyen**, Vietnam, Kate Unkel, Blue Hill (host parent); **Rosalind Brokaw**, daughter of Kerry and Bayard Brokaw, Brooksville; **Katherine Bertrand**, daughter of Paul and Elaine Bertrand, Castine; and **Ha Thi Ngoc Lai**, Vietnam, Prudy and Fred Heilner, Blue Hill (host parents). Also inducted but not shown: **Eleanor Howell**, daughter of Sarah Bushman and Scott Howell, Blue Hill; **Hannah Hurvitt**, daughter of Mary Alice Hurvitt, Blue Hill, and Mark Hurvitt, Blue Hill; **Cathy Lee**, South Korea, Becky and Tom Pickering, Sedgwick (host parents); and **Julianna Smith**, daughter of Robin Frank, Castine.

The ceremony was conducted by current senior NHS members: **Marjorie Freimuth**, **Emily Peake**, **Grace Bell**, **Jenny Powell**, **Trisha Bakeman**, **Emily Pettigrew**, **Allison Fleck**, **Katie Herklotz**, **Lilian Thorpe**, **Elizabeth Salois**, **John Turner**, and **Ashley Higgins**. GSA Librarian **Erich Reed** serves as the NHS Faculty Advisor. The guest speaker at the induction ceremony was Brooksville artist **Robert Shetterly**, author of *Americans Who Tell the Truth*.

## FOOD DRIVE BENEFITS TREE OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY

Members of the National Honor Society and of the Community Action Club joined forces on a food drive during the month of November. Students schoolwide donated more than 1,300 items of boxed and canned foods. Tim Farrar's advisory group won the challenge to bring in the most items, and for their success were awarded a lunch catered by Frank Bianco. The contents of the drive, as seen below, were donated to the Tree of Life Food Pantry in Blue Hill on Friday, November 21.







# A LOT MORE THAN *NOTHING* GOING ON at GEORGE STEVENS ACADEMY

## Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*

### The Play in Review by Martin Conte '11

There was a buzz in the audience of mostly family and close friends who gathered Thursday, November 13, 2008, in the George Stevens Academy gym. The thrill of a performance was in the air. Amy Grant, Theatre Director at GSA, mounts the stage to applause. She said when John Greene, Headmaster, first approached her about a play, he suggested Shakespeare. Her response: "Yeah, Shakespeare, I can do that." She then decided on what she calls the best Shakespeare play, *Much Ado About Nothing*.

Now, she proudly presented her performance. Students representing all four grade levels mount the stage, and actually present Shakespeare, which is no easy feat. Amy Grant herself said that the performance went beyond just getting your lines right, but these kids could actually embrace the language. And the *doths* and *thous* ran rampant through the play. After what any member of the cast could describe as a shaky period through rehearsals, the students managed to pull it together and really capture the essence of Shakespeare. The show was not just student-cast, but student-organized as well, with student light designers, set designers, sound technicians, and costume designers, who did a fantastic job.

What never ceases to amaze me is that these students, my peers, can transform in one afternoon into these brand new identities. Present onstage was not just the mastery of the play itself, but the entire art of acting. Students mounted the stage, sometimes completely alone, to deliver dialogues flawlessly. Kaiya Torrey '09 and Allison Fleck '09 whipped the audience into an uproar with their hilarious representation of the leaders of the night watchmen. And Keira Tachibana '11 brought us to tears in her character of Hero.

The night, first of four, finished with a standing ovation. And my congratulations to anyone involved in the play, for transporting me from the rather dull, dreary setting of the GSA gym, into 16th century Italy, and the world of Shakespeare.

And as you leave the school, climb into your car, maybe pat a son, daughter, niece, friend, on the back, you get that feeling, there in the pit of your stomach, of having seen a work of art come to life, there before your eyes.

Beatrice (Katherine Doyen '11) tries to comfort Hero (Keira Tachibana '11).



Claudio (Tynan Byrne '10) and Benedick (Adam DeLong '10) have a heated exchange of words.

Don Pedro  
Benedick  
Claudio  
Balthasar  
Don John  
Borachio  
Conrad  
Leonato  
Hero  
Beatrice  
Antonio  
Margaret  
Ursula  
Friar Francis  
Dogberry  
Verges  
Messenger, Boy, Sexton  
1st Watchman  
2nd Watchman  
Dancers

Charlie Volkwein '12  
Adam DeLong '10  
Tynan J. Byrne '10  
Bjorn Peterson '11  
Andrew Gray '10  
Aji Hall '11  
Mariah Blodgett '11  
Lara Peterson '10  
Keira Tachibana '11  
Katherine Doyen '11  
Marjorie Freimuth '09  
Charlene Farnsworth '10  
Lacey M. Leach '10  
Liz Salois '09  
Allison Fleck '09  
Kaiya Torrey '09  
Alice Carriveau '10  
Kelly Cutler '09  
Bjorn Peterson '11  
Katie Herklotz '09  
Eleanor Howell '09  
Mia Bogyo '12  
Elizabeth Doyen '11

Directed by  
Amy Grant

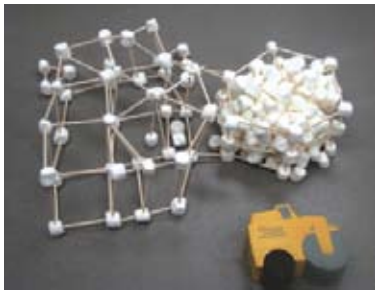
Tech:  
Molly McEntee '10,  
Harry Grillo '11, Stephen Bell '12,  
Vesta Davis '10,  
Stephanie Jung '11, Ha Lai '09



# TOTALLY TRADES:

## A Workshop for High School Girls Exploring & Building Skills in Trades and Technology

On Friday, November 7, Special Ed teacher Shelley Small and Dean Bayard Brokaw took ten GSA students to Bangor to participate in *Totally Trades: A Workshop for High School Girls Exploring and Building Skills in Trades and Technology*. A variety of hands-on workshops were offered, and a panel of tradeswomen talked about their experiences and career opportunities as electricians, boat builders, truck drivers, private contractors, and firefighters, to name just some of the careers represented.



Mrs. Small also attended a workshop about the National Girls Collaborative Project and the Maine Girls Collaborative, and got some promising information about potential available grant money to support girls with interests in these career paths. Students who attended were: **Carla Weed '10**, **Elizabeth Gray '10**, **Elizabeth Doyen '11**, **Katherine Doyen '11**, **Lili Smith '10**, **Amanda Veazie '09**, **Melissa Moore '10**, **Melissa Allen '10**, **Ericka Gray '10**, and **Destiny LaCross '11**. The girls collaborated in the "Marshmallow Olympics" sponsored by the Lane Construction Company, designing and building a steamroller from marshmallows and toothpicks—and won!

## JAZZ COMBO MUSAIC PERFORMANCES

On Sunday, October 19, George Stevens Academy's jazz combo, *Musaic*, performed at Blue Hill's Chef's Gala at the Arborvine Restaurant, part of the 3rd Annual Foliage Food & Wine Festival. Selections included *Caravan* by Duke Ellington, *My Romance* by Rodgers & Hart, and *Our Day Will Come*, as performed by Dionne Warwick, among others. Members of *Musaic* are: **Annie Ames '11**, trumpet; **Grace Bell '09**, vibes; **Grace Bugbee '12**, bass guitar; **Adam DeLong '10**, bari sax; **Sam Eley '11**, drums; **Ellie Howell '09**, trombone; **Bjorn Peterson '11**, guitar; and **Emmett Scott '11**, piano. *Musaic* is directed by Steve Orlofsky.

*Musaic* also performed at Husson University's Homecoming and reception during Jim Murphy's Athletic Hall of Fame induction (see Faculty Kudos on page 12).



## ELLIE HOWELL '09

Ellie Howell attended the Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival in Waterloo Village, New Jersey, September 28.

## INTERNATIONAL BUFFET

On October 11 the International Cooking Club and the International Student Program combined forces to cook an Asian buffet dinner. About a dozen local and international students spent the afternoon preparing the meal which was served to GSA's dorm students, the chefs themselves and nearly twenty community members. Many of the international students got a little taste of home. The menu included hot and sour soup (China), spring rolls (China), pad thai (Thailand), bulgogi (South Korea), pork meatballs (Vietnam) and spinach with chili sauce (Vietnam).

## STUDENTS PLAY FOR PARKER RIDGE

Grace Bell '09, piano, Grace Bugbee '12, bass, Sam Eley '11, drums, and Mr. Orlofsky, clarinet and flute, performed at Parker Ridge's Halloween Celebration on October 31.

## SPANISH CLUB

This year's Spanish Club co-presidentes are Max Reiter '10 and Ori Oriole '09. The Spanish Club ate at *The Mex* in Ellsworth to celebrate El Dia de los Muertos on November 12. GSA's Spanish Club has been celebrating this special event for almost twenty years, visiting Mexican restaurants from Bar Harbor to Northport.

## MARTIN CONTE '11

Martin Conte was one of four poets, and the only high school student, to participate in "Live Poets: New Voices" at the Blue Hill Library on Thursday, October 30.

## ANNIE AMES '11

Annie Ames, trumpet, auditioned for and was accepted to the All-State Jazz Festival Jazz Band. The All-State Jazz Festival will be held on Thursday, Friday, & Saturday January 8, 9, & 10, 2009 at Bangor High School.

## CHESS TEAM

Congratulations to the GSA chess team!

- The team won its first match of the season on November 13 versus Bucksport with a final score of 9-5.
- The team then improved its season record to 2-0 with an 8-6 home victory on November 20 against defending county champion MDI. Congratulations to TK Vu '10, Sunny Jeong '09, and Stevie Theoharidis '10 for each winning two games during that match!
- The team's next match will be played on Thursday, December 11, against Deer Isle-Stonington.
- A complete season schedule is available on the county high school chess homepage at [hancockchess.wikispaces.com](http://hancockchess.wikispaces.com).

## MATH TEAM

For the first math meet of the year, GSA traveled to Deer Isle Stonington High School. GSA placed second among the eleven schools that participated in the Hancock-Washington County Math League. Of the twenty-four GSA students who participated, seven of them had perfect scores on their individual tests. Those students were: John Jagger '09, John Ludlow '10, Dustin Piskura '10, Alex Kim '09, Elias Springer '10, Bjorn Peterson '11, and Long Nguyen '12.

The top scorers by grade were: 9th Grade - Tess Lameyer, 10 points; Courtney Koos, 10 points; Meredith Olivari, 3 points; 10th Grade - Bjorn Peterson, 26 points; Sabrina Vivian, 17 points; Abby Bowden, 17 points; Beth Doyen, 17 points; 11th Grade - Elias Springer, 25 points; Dustin Piskura, 25 points; John Ludlow, 25 points; and 12th Grade - Alex Kim, 24 points; Long Nguyen, 24 points; John Jagger, 24 points.

The top three team scores at the meet were as follows: Washington Academy, 181 points; GSA, 141 points; Woodland HS, 115 points.

## HAIKU CONTEST

### WINNING SUBMISSION

Untitled  
by Caleb Cousins '09

To feel and to find:  
Here we are looking for more,  
Ending with reason.

Oh how we'll enjoy  
Nothing new we see, simply  
Lust and foolish love.

You will see your love  
Lying down, looking to find  
Out if it's simply  
Voiding truth... It's more  
Elevating to enjoy  
It without reason.

Can we view reason  
As something not found in love?  
Nor could it enjoy

Foolishness. To find  
Its beliefs, one must be more  
Numb, thinking simply.

Do we act simply?  
Do we live without reason?  
Or do we show more

Exub'rance in love  
So we can pretend to find  
New things to enjoy?

Oh muse, I'll enjoy  
The sweet nothings that simply  
Had to be said. Find

An ounce of reason  
Vanguarding virtuous love,  
Elegant no more.

After the pyre, more  
New smiles are left to enjoy.  
You will sometimes love

Risks and act simply  
Enough to need no reason;  
A quite useless find.  
So we find more that  
Omits reason to enjoy  
Needs we simply love.

### HONORABLE MENTION

Untitled  
by Martin Conte '11

The bees danced about  
Whirling, twirling in the trees  
A pledge to the sun.

# CLEAN SLATE ANNOUNCES CONTEST

Clean Slate, GSA's student-organized Literary Magazine, is holding a contest for the best rap submission. See below for details:

## RAP – poetry with attitude!

A rap is a form of performance poetry with rhyming, playful lyrics, rhythm and attitude. It's a cross between prose, poetry, music, and speech.

Submit your entries via:  
email: [gsacleanslate@gmail.com](mailto:gsacleanslate@gmail.com)  
drop box: English rooms and library

### Guidelines:

1. Due Date: December 12th
2. Can be with or without musical accompaniment.
3. Multiple people may co-create a single entry.
4. It must appropriate for all audiences

Clean Slate's previous contest subject was haiku. The winning and honorable mention submissions, by Caleb Cousins and Martin Conte, respectively, are included on this page and can also be read on Clean Slate's blogspot at [gsacleanslate.blogspot.com](http://gsacleanslate.blogspot.com).

## FACULTY KUDOS!

- ▶ Erich Reed, *Librarian*, contributed chapters to the new edition of the *Maine Association of School Libraries* resource guide, *School Librarian's Handbook*, to be published in 2009.
- ▶ Jim Murphy, *Athletic Director and Business Education Teacher*, was inducted into the Husson University (formerly Husson College) Athletics Hall of Fame on October 10. In response to this honor Jim commented, "My plate is always full, as is most of my peers'. Teaching class each day certainly guarantees that, but I am very proud of what we have been able to accomplish at George Stevens Academy. I really don't consider any of my personal accomplishments as outstanding, but, rather, as opportunities and challenges that I have been given to help make our community a better place to live, our school a better place to learn, and our conference a better league to compete."
- ▶ Two poems by Marie Epply, *English*, "Joy's Sweet Grief" (right) and "Shadow Images," have been published in *Goose River Anthology 2008*, edited by Deborah J. Benner.
- ▶ A review by Liffey Thorpe, *Communications Director*, of Marguerite Johnson's *Sappho* appears in the winter issue of *Classical Review*, published by Cambridge University Press.

### Joy's Sweet Grief for Bill

My heart is heavy  
with a sadness born  
from the joy of missing you.  
This sorrow looms—  
a spectral figure—  
whose volume and form  
changes with memory's landscape.

You cannot imagine  
how real you feel  
when I walk in a place  
where once you were young  
and with me—then and now—  
or how this melancholic muse of loving  
drapes itself in shadow, hovering nearby.

And I imagine  
if there is another dimension—  
a simultaneous extension of space and time—  
its rhyme would explain  
how tangible a companion you are  
and how far I've come to be grateful  
for this grief of releasing you slowly  
to grow into your own life.

And if—by the great fortune  
which you deserve—this life serves you  
as generous a share as mine  
then the time I spend  
missing you, yet wishing you free  
will be but a passing shadow  
of joy's sweet grief  
wearing the smile of loving you.

-Marie Epply

George Comeau and Gregg Hannah remove kitchen cabinets from the Beach property



# THANKS to THOSE WHO SERVE

## ANNUAL FUND VOLUNTEERS

- Robin Alden & Ted Ames
- Helen Bakeman
- Trudy Bell
- Frank Bianco
- Lola Bogyo
- Deborah Brewster
- Winslow Brokaw
- Jennifer Bryant
- Rob Clapp
- Bonnie Copper
- Donna and Phil Doyen
- Charlie Ferden
- Jim Henry
- Eckley Herrick
- Lucy Ledien
- JoDee Lymburner
- Dan Kane
- Bill Moorehouse
- Marion Morris
- Margie Olivari
- Nancy Plouffe
- Libby Rosemeier
- Katya Silitch
- Frank Wanning

## HALLOWEEN DANCE CHAPERONES

- Richard Crampton
- Sue Dickinson
- Robin Frank
- Kitty Hall
- Holly McGraw
- Paul Sullivan

## BEACH CREW

- Leslie Clapp
- George Comeau
- Jim Fox
- Bill Gray
- Pat and Donald Gray
- Gregg Hannah
- Dan McGraw
- Marion Morris

GSA is truly a community, as evidenced by the many individuals who are always ready to step forward and volunteer their time, energy, wisdom, and enthusiasm to causes big and little. A special thank you to the following people who made a difference this Fall:

### Marion Morris

*for chairing the Parent Association and making it happen every month*

### Darlene Hatch and Pat Henry

*for organizing activities and food for the Rec Center, the bright spot in many students' weekends*

### Tracy Spencer

*for being the Library Parent Volunteer Coordinator, so the library can stay open for industrious students*

### Annual Fund helpers

*for folding, stuffing, stamping, sealing, and sorting. A Herculean task, but you did it! (see list at left)*

### Caroline Herrick

*for being in the Library night after night to tutor students who need extra help in math*

### Halloween Dance Chaperones

*for braving the job of chaperoning the Halloween dance (see list at left)*

### The Beach Property Crew

*for rolling up your sleeves to tear down, clean out and tidy up (see list at left)*

### Parent Association Parents

*for all the PA parents who provided Friday snacks for the teachers*



Leslie Clapp '82 helps with the landscaping at the Beach property.



Marion Morris and Dan McGraw clean up the Beach property.

# EVERYWHERE YOU LOOK...

## YOUR GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!



Fall marks our yearly Annual Fund appeal for support of the people and programs that make GSA a unique and remarkable place of learning. The collective generosity of alumni, parents, and friends make it possible for GSA to continue to be a leader in high school education.

We understand the strains of our present economic climate, but we also know that the Academy can't postpone educating students in hopes of better times. Well-educated children are our best hope for a better tomorrow, and we urge you to help us make their education today reflect the better future we all hope for.

Please give today and become part of the growing body of loyal supporters whose gifts ensure that current and future students of George Stevens Academy have an exceptional educational experience.

*Thank you for your support!*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Abigail Greene". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Abigail Greene '01  
Director of Annual Giving

### WAYS to GIVE

When making your gift to George Stevens Academy, please consider the following giving options:

#### ONLINE

Giving online is a simple and secure way to make your gift. Please visit our Web site at [georgestevensacademy.org/support](http://georgestevensacademy.org/support).

#### BY MAIL

Mail your check, made payable to George Stevens Academy, or credit card information, using the enclosed envelope or an envelope addressed to: George Stevens Academy, Annual Fund, 23 Union Street, Blue Hill, ME 04614.

#### BY TELEPHONE

Make your gift by calling the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at (207) 374-2800.

#### GIFTS OF APPRECIATED SECURITIES

Making a gift of appreciated stocks can sometimes be more advantageous than giving cash. For more information of gifts of stock, please call our office.

#### CORPORATE MATCHING GIFTS

If you or your spouse is affiliated with a company that has a matching gift program, you can double or triple the size of your gift. When you make your gift, please include the matching gift form, which is available from your human resources department. Matching gifts will be applied toward giving levels.

*For more information about these and other giving options, please contact (207) 374-2800. Our fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. The George Stevens Academy Annual Fund accepts gifts throughout the year. Please consider becoming a donor today!*

#### GEORGE STEVENS ACADEMY

Office of Development and Alumni Relations  
23 Union Street • Blue Hill, ME 04614 • (207) 374-2800  
[www.georgestevensacademy.org](http://www.georgestevensacademy.org)

## LESLIE CLAPP '82 RECEIVES NSDAR CONSERVATION AWARD

The Majabigwaduce Chapter, the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) presented **Leslie Clapp** of Blue Hill, a 1982 graduate of George Stevens Academy, with the NSDAR Conservation Award during their November 10th meeting held at the Brooksville Townhouse. Mrs. Reta Hunter, Chapter Conservation Committee Chairman, nominated Ms. Clapp for the award because of her distinguished conservation record, and Rada Starkey, GSA Director of Development, wrote a supporting letter of recommendation. Mrs. Starkey was also in attendance at the awards ceremony.

Leslie Clapp is known for her work with the Down East Audubon Society, having recently being named "Volunteer of the Year" in 2007. Her residence in Blue Hill Village has been designated as a "Backyard Habit" for birds and wildlife which she shares with anyone interested in learning how to do the same on their property.

Leslie is a published author and photographer as well as a regular presenter for the George Stevens Academy Summer Speakers Series. Leslie is also an avid long distance hiker, outdoors person and world traveler and she freely shares her experiences with school children as well as adults. Leslie uses her beautiful slides to punctuate her talks, captivating her audience with the sights and sounds of the wildlife from far away places.



**Reta Hunter (Mrs. Guy Hunter) Chapter Conservation Chairman, Leslie Clapp, Joe-Anne Corwin (Mrs. Kevin Corwin) Chapter Regent.**

## SAM MENDLOWITZ '06



Seaman Apprentice Sam Mendlowitz '06 leaves USCG boot camp, Cape May, NJ after graduating on November 14th from company Mike-180 with the Outstanding Recruit Award. After five days leave he reported to USCG Cutter Legare in Portsmouth, VA.

## KATE ORLOFSKY '08 WINNER IN ESSAY CONTEST



Kate Orlofsky '08 is one of ten students (out of 2,800) who won Cornell's New Student Reading Project Essay Contest. Students were sent ten essay questions along with their required summer reading, *Lincoln at Gettysburg*, and were asked to write an essay based on one of the questions.

As one of the contest winners, Kate received a \$200 gift certificate from The Cornell Store.

Kate, a freshman at Cornell, is studying animal science and plans to pursue a degree in veterinary medicine.

Read Kate's essay entitled "A Transformation of the Real into the Ideal."

# IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO BE THINKING & DREAMING OF SUMMER!

## ORDER NOW!

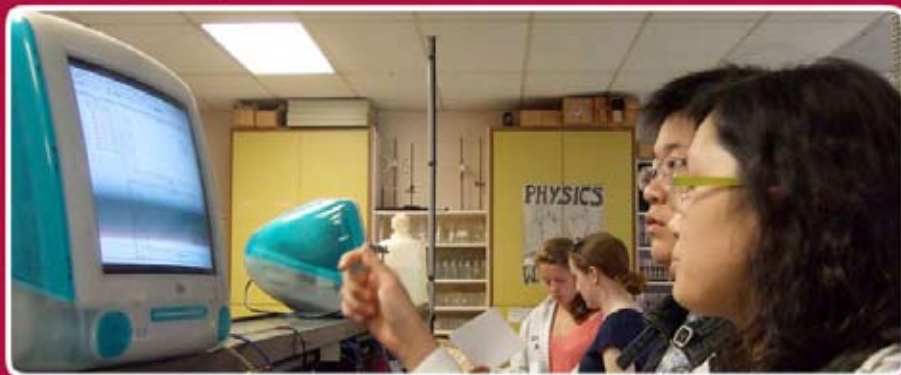
In January the GSA residential construction students will be building custom-designed sheds and garden structures. Space is limited and these structures are built on a first-come, first-served basis.



For more information contact **Tim Farrar**, Instructor, at 374.2808 or stop by the wood shop anytime during the school day.

## GEORGE STEVENS ACADEMY

*A World of Learning on the Maine Coast*



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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanksgiving break:

### WELCOME!

Founded in 1803, **George Stevens**

### DISCOVER GSA

[Athletics Events Calendar](#)

Don't forget to keep checking the new & improved Web site for frequent updates.

Do you have any suggestions about a good story for a future issue of GSA Matters?

Send your ideas to  
Liffey Thorpe,  
Director of Communications

[l.thorpe@georgestevens.org](mailto:l.thorpe@georgestevens.org)  
207.374.2800

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 26-30	Thanksgiving Break
December 1	2nd Quarter Academic Notices
December 11	Senior Financial Aid Evening – 6:30 PM
December 16	Holiday Concert: 6:45 p.m., Gymnasium
December 20 - January 4	Holiday Break
January 8, 9 & 10	All State Jazz Festival, Bangor High School
January 12-16	First Semester Exams
January 16	End of First Semester